



STUDIES IN AUSTRALIAN ENTOMOLOGY.

No. VI.—DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TIGER BEETLE FROM
QUEENSLAND.

BY THOMAS G. SLOANE.

MEGACEPHALA FRENCHI, n.sp.

Robust, oval, cylindrical. Metallic green, with a bluish tinge in some lights; antennæ, labrum, mentum, prosternum, mesosternum, metasternum, ventral segments (excepting lateral parts of three basal ones), legs and inflexed part of elytra black; palpi yellowish-brown. Head large, convex, smooth; eyes prominent, convex. Prothorax hardly broader than long ($5 \times 5\frac{1}{4}$ mm.), convex, smooth; disc a little depressed in front; anterior margin sinuate; base sinuate—the middle roundly produced backwards—bordered on each side near basal angles, these rounded off; median line strongly impressed between anterior and posterior transverse line; anterior transverse line sinuate, not extending to margins, strongly impressed on each side, weaker and sub-circularly more remote from anterior margin in middle; posterior transverse line strongly impressed, almost straight, a little bent forward in middle, not extending to margins, ending in a shallow foveiform impression on each side. Elytra oval ($11\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ mm.), roundly convex, widest rather behind middle; base truncate; shoulders rounded; apex widely and evenly rounded; basal part of elytra for a little less than half the length strongly punctate; the apical part smooth; the punctures of basal part forming eight rows on each elytron, these (excepting the sutural and marginal rows) rather irregular; two strong punctures a little behind the others along the line of the second row, three others, much smaller

and but slightly perceptible, further towards apex along same line; the punctures of the marginal row finer and widely placed behind the punctate part, becoming towards apex merely fine points; border narrow not reflexed.

Length 19, breadth $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Hab.—Cloncurry River, Queensland. Received from Mr. Charles French, Government Entomologist, Melbourne.*

This species is readily distinguished from *M. cylindrica*, MacL., (the only other species known to me), by the black colour of the legs, labrum and mandibles; the prothorax too is longer and more convex in the specimen before me than in the examples of *M. cylindrica* I have. I may remark that there is nothing in Count de Castlenau's description of the third known Australian species, *M. howitti*, excepting its smaller size, to suggest its being a different species from *M. cylindrica*; I do not think it will likely prove more than at most a variety of that species.

* Since the above was written Mr. French has received, and sent to me, another specimen of *M. frenchi*, as coming from the north-west of Australia "between Roeburn and the Murchison River, about three hundred miles inland."—T. G. S.